

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A device for sampling a bodily fluid from an incision in skin, comprising:

a lancet having a lancet tip to form the incision in the skin;

a housing coupled to the lancet, the housing defining at least in part a capillary channel with an opening, the capillary channel being sized to draw the bodily fluid from the incision via capillary action;~~and~~

the lancet tip extending from the capillary channel opening, the lancet tip being immovable relative to the housing;

a flexible sheet having a sampling end portion extending from ~~the housing proximal~~ the opening of the capillary channel;

the sampling end portion being flexible to bend against the skin as the lancet forms the incision; and

the sampling end portion of the flexible sheet being at least as long as the lancet tip to draw the bodily fluid into the opening of the capillary channel when the lancet tip is retracted from the incision.

2. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the housing defines a notch at the opening of the capillary channel to minimize dose hesitation of the bodily fluid into the capillary channel.

3. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the sheet is hydrophilic for enhancing the flow rate of the bodily fluid into the capillary channel.

4. (Original) The device of claim 3, wherein the sheet is coated with a hydrophilic coating.

5. (Original) The device of claim 4, wherein the hydrophilic coating includes aluminum oxide.

6. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the sheet is transparent for allowing a user to view the bodily fluid while being drawn into the capillary channel.

7. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein:
the housing has an outside surface; and
the lancet is attached to the outside surface of the housing.

8. (Original) The device of claim 7, wherein the lancet is glued to the outside surface of the housing.

9. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the housing defines a registration opening for positioning the housing.

10. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein:
the housing includes a base and a spacer member attached to the base;
the spacer member defines a slot;
the sheet covers at least a portion of the slot; and
the spacer member is sandwiched between the base and the sheet to form the capillary channel in the slot.

11. (Original) The device of claim 10, wherein the housing includes a cover covering the sheet over the slot and a vent member defining a vent opening for exhausting gas from the capillary channel.

12. (Original) The device of claim 11, further comprising a test area positioned along the capillary channel in which the bodily fluid is analyzed, wherein the vent opening is defined between the test area and the vent member.

13. (Original) The device of claim 12, wherein the test area includes a reagent test strip.

14. (Original) The device of claim 10, further comprising a test area positioned along the capillary channel for analyzing the bodily fluid.

Claim 15 (Canceled).

16. (Currently amended) The device of claim[[15]]1, wherein the lancet tip has a triangular shape.

17. (Currently amended) The device of claim[[15]]1, wherein the lancet tip has a slanted shape.

18. (Withdrawn-currently amended) The device of claim[[15]]1, wherein the lancet tip defines a slot for drawing the bodily fluid into the capillary channel.

19. (Currently amended) The device of claim[[15]]1, wherein the sheet extends past the lancet tip in order for the sheet to remain in contact with the skin and draw the bodily fluid when the lancet tip is removed from the skin.

20. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the housing and the lancet are flat.

21. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising means for testing the bodily fluid in the capillary channel.

22. (Original) The device of claim 21, wherein the means for testing the bodily fluid includes a reagent test strip.

23. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising a testing system positioned along the capillary channel to analyze the bodily fluid.

24. (Original) The device of claim 23, wherein the testing system includes a reagent test strip.

25. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 23, wherein the testing system includes:
at least two electrodes; and
an electrochemical test strip positioned between the electrodes in the capillary channel.

26. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 25, wherein the housing includes:
a base made of insulating material, the electrodes extending along the base; and
a spacer made of insulating material, the electrodes being sandwiched between the base and spacer, the spacer defining a slot, wherein said sheet covers the slot to form the capillary channel.

27. (Original) The device of claim 23, wherein:
the sheet is hydrophilic; and
the sheet extends along the capillary channel to draw the bodily fluid onto the test system.

28. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 1, wherein the housing has a skin contact surface that is shaped to maintain the incision open as the housing is pressed against the skin.

29. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 28, wherein the skin contact surface and the housing are beveled.

30. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 1, further comprising a second flexible sheet extending from the housing on the opposite side of the capillary channel as the flexible sheet to draw the bodily fluid into the opening of the capillary channel without closing the incision.

31. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 30, wherein the flexible sheet and the second flexible sheet face each other.

32. (Currently amended) A method of sampling a bodily fluid from an incision in skin, comprising:

providing a device that includes a housing that defines a capillary channel with an opening, a lancet coupled to the housing, and a flexible sheet that extends from the housing proximal the opening of the capillary channel, wherein the lancet includes a lancet tip extending from the opening of the capillary channel;

lancing the incision in the skin with the lancet; and

bending the flexible sheet against the skin during said lancing;

retracting the lancet from the skin;

straightening the flexible sheet during said retracting; and

drawing the bodily fluid from the incision into the capillary channel with the flexible sheet.

Claim 33 (canceled).

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[33]]~~ 32, further comprising:
wherein the device includes testing means positioned along the capillary channel;
depositing the bodily fluid in the capillary channel onto the testing means; and
analyzing the bodily fluid with the testing means.

35. (Original) The method of claim 34, wherein said analyzing includes chemically testing analyte levels in the bodily fluid.

36. (Original) The method of claim 34, wherein said analyzing includes electrochemically testing analyte level in the bodily fluid.

37. (Original) The method of claim 32, further comprising:
wherein the device includes testing means positioned along the capillary channel;
depositing the bodily fluid in the capillary channel onto the testing means; and
analyzing the bodily fluid with the testing means.

Claims 38-46 (Canceled).

47. (Currently amended) An integrated bodily fluid sampling device for sampling a bodily fluid from an incision in skin, comprising:

a housing defining a capillary channel with an opening configured to draw the bodily fluid via capillary action;

a lancet having a lancet tip for forming the incision in the skin, the lancet being attached to the housing with the lancet tip extending from around the opening of the channel, the lancet being immovable with respect to the housing;~~and~~

means for testing the bodily fluid positioned along the channel;

a sheet of hydrophilic film extending from the opening of the channel, the sheet being flexible to bend as the lancet tip forms the incision; and

the sheet extending past the lancet tip for drawing the bodily fluid into the channel.

48. (Original) The device of claim 47, wherein the means for testing the bodily fluid includes a chemical reagent test strip.

49. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 47, wherein the means for testing the bodily fluid at least a pair of electrodes and an electrochemical reagent spanning between the electrodes.

Claim 50 (Canceled).

51. (Original) The device of claim 47, wherein the lancet has a flat shape.

52. (Original) The device of claim 47, wherein the housing includes:

a base;

a cover; and

a spacer sandwiched between the base and the cover to define the channel.

53. (Original) The device of claim 52, wherein the lancet, the base, the cover and the lancet have an overall flat shape.

54. (Original) The device of claim 47, wherein the housing defines a notch at the opening of the channel for minimizing dose hesitation of the bodily fluid into the opening.

55. (New) The device of claim 1, wherein the lancet tip and the sampling end portion of the flexible sheet extend in a generally parallel manner.

56. (New) The device of claim 1, wherein the flexible sheet is a plastic film.

57. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

a body fluid sampling device including

a lancet having a lancet tip for cutting an incision in skin,

a capillary channel opening for collecting body fluid from the incision,

the lancet tip extending in a fixed manner from the capillary channel opening,

a fluid collection sheet having a sampling end portion extending from the capillary channel opening, and

the sampling end portion of the fluid collection sheet being at least as long as the lancet tip for drawing the body fluid from the incision into the capillary channel opening.

58. (New) The apparatus of claim 57, in which the sampling end portion extends past the lancet tip.

59. (New) A method, comprising:

cutting an incision in skin with a lancet of a body fluid sampling device that includes a capillary channel with an opening, wherein the lancet is immovable relative to the body fluid sampling device, wherein the sampling device includes a fluid collection sheet that is flexible;

bending the fluid collection sheet against the skin during said cutting the incision;

retracting the lancet from the incision; and

drawing body fluid from the incision into the opening of the capillary channel with the fluid collection sheet.

60. (New) The method of claim 59, further comprising:
wherein the fluid collection sheet extends past the end of the lancet; and
maintaining contact of the fluid collection sheet against the skin during said drawing the
body fluid.